

## REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested. Claims 1-32 are pending. Claims 1-32 stand rejected. In this response, no claim has been canceled or amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-9, 12-14, 16-17, 20-22, 24-25, 28-30, and 32 are rejected under U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Application No. 2001/002455 of Chin et al. ("Chin"). Applicant hereby reserves the right to swear behind Chin in the subsequent prosecution of the present application. In order to anticipate a claim, each element of the claim must be taught by Chin. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-32 include limitations that are not disclosed by Chin. Specifically, independent claim 1 recites as follows:

1. A method comprising:
  - converting a search term in a search request to one or more canonical phonetic forms;
  - performing a phonetic keyword search for each canonical phonetic form of the search term; and
  - generating an indication of search results based, at least in part, on the phonetic keyword search.

(Emphasis added)

Independent claim 1 includes limitations of converting a search term in a search request to one or more canonical phonetic forms (e.g., related to the pronunciation of the search term), performing a phonetic keyword search for each of the canonical phonetic forms of the search term, and generating a result based on the search. Applicant respectfully submits that the above limitations are absent from Chin.

Rather, Chin relates to multilingual text translations (e.g., text to text translation). In the Office Action, the Examiner stated that paragraph 164 of Chin discloses the limitation of converting a search term to one or more canonical phonetic forms, and paragraphs 41 and 164

disclose the limitation of performing a phonetic keyword search for each canonical phonetic form of the search term (see, 10/22/2003 Office Action, page 2). Applicant respectfully disagrees. Both paragraphs 41 and 164 relate to text to text translation using a canonical phrase in a text form. There is no mention of canonical phonetic forms in Chin. Chin relates to text-to-text translation which has nothing to do with the pronunciation of the text. There is no need to consider the pronunciation of the text when performing such a translation.

In contrast, independent claim 1 relates to using the pronunciation of the search term to form a phonetic search term and perform a phonetic key word search for the phonetic search term. As result, even when a user enters a misspelled term to search, the present invention as claimed is still able to correctly search items for the search term based on the similar pronunciation of the search term, by converting the search term into one or more canonical phonetic forms and performing a canonical phonetic keyword search for each of the canonical phonetic forms. Therefore, for the reasons discussed above, independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Chin.

Similarly, independent claims 9, 17, and 25 include limitations similar to those referred to by claim 1. Thus, for the reasons similar to those discussed above, claims 9, 17, and 25 are not anticipated by Chin.

Given that claims 2-8, 10-16, 18-24, and 26-32 depend from one of the above independent claims, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-8, 10-16, 18-24, and 26-32 are not anticipated by Chin. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully submitted.

Claims 2-3, 7, 10-11, 15, 18-19, 23, 26-27, and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chin in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,799,276 of Komissarchik et al. ("Komissarchik"). In view of the foregoing remarks, it is respectfully submitted that Komissarchik also fails to disclose or suggest the limitations set forth above. As a result, at least

for the reasons similar to those discussed above, claims 2-3, 7, 10-11, 15, 18-19, 23, 26-27, and 32 are patentable over Chin in view of Komissarchik.

For example, with respect to claim 2, claim 2 includes limitations of identifying one or more diphthongs within the search term, determining one or more canonical representations for at least one of the one or more diphthongs, and generating one or more canonical phonetic forms based on the canonical representations of the diphthongs. These limitations are not disclosed or suggested by Chin or Komissarchik, individually or combination.

In the Office Action, Examiner stated that col. 83, lines 53-65 of Komissarchik discloses identifying one or more diphthongs within the search term and determining one or more canonical representations for at least one of the one or more diphthongs as claimed in claim 2 (see, 10/22/2003 Office Action, pages 3-4). Applicant respectfully disagrees. Although Komissarchik recognizes the speech based on the diphthongs, Komissarchik still fails to disclose determining one or more canonical representations for the diphthongs and generating one or more canonical phonetic forms based on the canonical representations of the diphthongs. Similarly, Chin and Komissarchik, individually or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest the limitations of claims 3 and 7.

In addition, there is no suggestion to combine Chin with Komissarchik. Chin relates to text-to-text translation while Komissarchik relates to speech recognition (e.g., speech to text). It is respectfully submitted that one with ordinary skill in the art would not look to combine Chin with Komissarchik because there is no motivation for such a combination. Even if they were combined, such a combination still lacks the limitations set forth above. Therefore, for the reasons discussed above, claims 1-32 are patentable over Chin in view of Komissarchik. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully submitted.

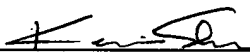
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN

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Kevin G. Shao  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 45,095

12400 Wilshire Boulevard  
Seventh Floor  
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026  
(408) 720-8300